

Serial No.: 10/828,028  
Atty. Docket No.: 124239-00101  
Reply to Office Action of May 20, 2005

## R E M A R K S

In view of the above amendments and following remarks, favorable reconsideration in this application is respectfully requested.

### Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §102

The Examiner rejects claims 39-68 under 35 U.S.C. §102 as anticipated by Tamir (U.S. Patent No. 5,923,365).

Tamir teaches a method for generating a stroboscopic representation from images in an original video sequence. A first frame is grabbed and digitized (Fig. 3a, step 100) and an object to be highlighted is marked by the user (Fig. 3a, step 110). The sequence of steps of Fig. 3a and 5a is performed successively for n frames or video fields until the end of the session (see col. 4, line 64 – col. 5, line 6). During step 150 (Fig. 3a; col. 9, lines 52-60), the marked objects are detected in each of the n frames. Later on, all marked objects are computed to a past trajectory (step 206, Fig. 3a, col. 11, lines 10-15). Fig. 2 shows an actual frame (T5) as well as an indication of the past trajectory of the player (T1-T4).

In contrast, the present invention chooses a common focal plane and the foreground features are warped onto the common focal plane and rendered accordingly. In addition, the stroboscopic representation from the synthesized sequence is rendered as a video. In accordance with the present invention, the synthesis module 120 serves for the pre-processing of a common

focal plane and for warping of the foreground features onto the chosen focal plane (see p. 4, lines 15-22).

Tamir does not teach or suggest these claimed features. Rather, Tamir only discloses a method for highlighting foreground objects on each of a plurality of successive video fields (col. 5, lines 7-14). In Tamir, highlighting generally refers to any manipulation of the object such as color change, shadowing, and framing. (Col. 11, lines 18-29). Moreover, the previously computed past trajectories of the marked objects may be superimposed on the video frame (col. 11, lines 30-32; Fig. 2). There is not suggestion, however, to highlight an object on a video frame by including multiple representations of the object frozen at different instants. The trajectory illustrated in Fig. 2 of Tamir merely comprises a line.

Tamir also suggests to summarize the entire event by superimposing acts that occurred at different time points on a same background image (col. 13, lines 61-63). This is illustrated on Figs. 6A and 6B, which show diagnostic still images with views of soccer players at different time points superimposed on a background (col. 13, lines 64-67). However, the choice of a common focal plane and the warping of extracted foreground objects onto said common focal plane are neither anticipated nor can any hint be found in Tamir for this feature. Tamir only suggests to superimpose the foreground objects, but not to transform them by warping onto a common focal plane. Moreover, the “stroboscopic” view of Tamir only produces still images. Tamir does not suggest a stroboscopic representation for a video. In particular, Tamir does not suggest to warp extracted foreground objects onto the focal plane of every single field of the original video in order to create a stroboscoping video similar to the original video at the difference that frozen representations of foreground objects are overlaid onto it.

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Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the claimed invention is patentable over Tamir. In the event there are any questions relating to this Amendment or to the application in general, it would be appreciated if the Examiner would telephone the undersigned attorney concerning such questions so that the prosecution of this application may be expedited.

Please charge any shortage or credit any overpayment of fees to BLANK ROME LLP, Deposit Account No. 23-2185 (124239-00101). In the event that a petition for an extension of time is required to be submitted herewith and in the event that a separate petition does not accompany this response, Applicant hereby petitions under 37 CFR 1.136(a) for an extension of time for as many months as are required to render this submission timely. Any fee due is authorized above.

Respectfully submitted,

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